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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Erfurt-Bindersleben Airfield

25X1A

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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1. Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield was observed during rainy weather between 5:45 a.m. and noon on 13 September 1951. Its length was about 2,500 meters. Intensive work was under way in sections A and C. * Numerous power shovels, cranes, and narrow-gauge field railways were in operation in section A where a hill was to be leveled. Grading was being done in section C, east of the landing field. Materials required for concreting the projected taxiways or runway were not observed.

2. About 600 civilian laborers and 60 to 80 Soviet soldiers wearing blue epaulets were employed in section D. Most of the soldiers were drivers of the large machines used there. About 6:30 a.m., three trucks driven by armed VP men, arrived at the field coming from the direction of Erfurt. **Twenty men in prison uniforms arrived on one of these trucks.** German convicts in groups of 6 to 8 men were employed in section A. Trucks 25X1A tank truck 25X1C, and caterpillar tractor 25X1C were seen in section D, and truck 25X1C was parked in the same section in front of a low wooden building housing the kitchen.

3. Between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 4 October, excavating continued in sections A and C, where power shovels and excavators were used. Almost no work was done in section B. The excavated stripe in the south was 16 to 18 meters wide and the northern stripe 175 to 130 meters wide. ** In the eastern section of the latter stripe two **Russians** were working with a caterpillar tractor towing an excavator.

25X1A * **Comment.** For sketch of construction sites, see Annex.
25X1A ** **Comment.** This is apparently grading work for a runway and taxiway. If the length of the field reported in paragraph 1 is correct, it is believed that the runway will be about 2,500 meters long.

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